

## Project Summary

Provide a summary (one-page maximum) that describes key elements of the project and states the total project cost.

Please type here: The Sierra Nevada Alliance is submitting to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy this full proposal requesting \$200,000 in support for our Land & Water Project. Sierra watersheds are impaired from a variety of land use activities resulting in increased sediment runoff, as well as alterations to flow, habitat and pH. This project would help protect Sierra watersheds by educating individuals and city and county policy makers about opportunities to change land use practices to protect watershed health in the Sierra. The program would educate communities about model land use policies that protect watersheds and educate and inspire private landowners to adopt best landscaping practices that protect their watershed.

The State Water Resources Control Board has provided Proposition 40 funds for the Alliance to do a series of activities to reduce nonpoint source pollution. An additional grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy will allow us to expand our outreach to city and county land use planning agencies, watershed groups and individual homeowners to reach a greater number of people throughout the Sierra.

The Alliance is proposing to do 12 Watershed and Land Use Practices Community Forums. The Alliance is creating a Land Use Model Policies to Protect Water Quality Guide for counties and cities in the Sierra Nevada. The guide will include information on county and city policies such as riparian corridor ordinances, zoning ordinances, general plan elements, subdivision regulations, post construction urban runoff and hydromodification management policies from around the state and nation that address NPS pollution.

The Sierra Nevada Alliance would train community leaders and provide support to them to host community education forums that engage local stakeholders, agency staff, city and county decision-makers to discuss how land use practices impact their watersheds and what changes in land use they can implement in their community. We are requesting support to expand the number of forums from 4 to 12 (8 additional forums). We also request support to produce an additional 500 Land & Water Policy guides to distribute at the additional forums and to mail them to all planning commissioners and city and county elected officials in the Sierra.

The Alliance would also train watershed programs, Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) and other community resource management programs to establish new projects conducting free site evaluations and Best Management Practice (BMP) recommendations for Sierra homeowners. This is modeled on Tahoe's BMP programs, but focused on voluntary implementation. The Alliance is asking for Conservancy support to conduct a series of trainings in five to eight communities to help them start these BMP consultation programs and distribute a Sierra landscaping guide regarding these model BMPs in these communities.